



LOUISIANA SENATE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONTACT: SEN. GARY SMITH

PHONE: 985.764.9122

**SEN. SMITH ANNOUNCES NEW STATE LAW
TO PROTECT PORTABLE ELECTRONICS CONSUMERS**

**EFFORT TO INCREASE ACCESS AND OVERSIGHT
RE: PORTABLE ELECTRONICS INSURANCE POLICIES**

____ At the urging of District 19 State Senator Gary Smith (D-Norco), the legislature approved and the Governor signed Senate Bill 167, now ACT 311 of the 2012 Regular Session. The measure establishes a state program for the licensing of vendors to sell insurance policies for portable electronics, over and above the normal or extended product warranty. The limited lines licenses will set up a system for state oversight, training, consumer information and consumer protections.

"Just about everyone these days uses some type of portable electronics in their daily lives, whether it be a cell phone, portable computer, I-Pad or electronic reader. This measure is designed to make sure that when consumers are offered special insurance policies for their electronic products that they know the terms, they know their options and they know the state is looking out for their interests," Sen. Smith said.

The type of portable electronics insurance covered by the new law provides coverage for such things as loss, theft, mechanical failure, malfunction or damage beyond what would normally be covered by the product warranty or extended warranty. The new law takes effect Aug. 1, 2012.

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